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Applicant:

KURITA et al.

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.6(d) to the attention of Examiner I. Ghali, Art Unit 1615, in Technology Center 1600 of the Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231, FAX number 703-872-9306, on the 10th day of April, 2002.

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed on December 14, 2001. Please amend the application as follows.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows. Applicants have attached sheets with the amended claims marked up to show deletions (by bracketing) and additions (by underlining). Also attached for the Examiner's convenience is a full set of clean copies of the claims as amended.